



Maryland Department of Planning  
Maryland Historical Trust

Sustain<sup>able</sup> — Attain<sup>able</sup>

MARYLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ARCHAEOLOGY  
(MACA)  
December 11, 2013

Committee Members in Attendance

Joy Beasley  
Jane Cox  
Marian Creveling  
Tom Forhan

Staff in Attendance

Dennis Curry  
Jan Gowing  
Charlie Hall  
Dixie Henry  
Susan Langley  
Troy Nowak

The Meeting was called to order at 9:45 a. m. by Chairman Jane Cox.

Review of the minutes of September 11, 2013

The minutes were reviewed and accepted in a motion made by Tom Forhan and seconded by Marian Creveling; the motion was carried unanimously

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

Underwater Activities report – S. Langley

Susan and Troy are very happy with the new equipment, which still needs software and a GPS. It was taken out to Nottingham for testing, which showed the higher quality of the equipment. Both Susan and Troy had to renew their emergency first responder certificate and training and invited the Greene family, who received the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2013, to the training to be certified, which also renewed Susan's instructor level. Troy gave a paper at the Council for

Martin O'Malley, Governor  
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

Richard Eberhart Hall, AICP, Secretary  
Amanda Stakem Conn, Esq., Deputy Secretary

Northeast Historical Archaeology Conference on an ongoing collaborative project with the MNCPPC. The NPS American Battlefield Protection Program report is just about ready to go and will be submitted by the end of the month. Julie King approached Susan and Troy to see if they were interested in collaborating with her and developing an inventorying project on the Wicomico River in Charles County. She also introduced them to a waterman near St. Mary's City, who may have a ballast pile composed of European flint. Susan continues to work with NOAA on the Monitor Sanctuary and will serve as chair of their advisory council for another year. They have a new process called Sanctuary Nomination Program, which they'd like to be community driven. Susan is going to a meeting to help nomination of Mallows Bay. Initially, they want to nominate just the water, hoping that will be an easier process, then bring in a larger area as contributing properties. The focus will be on World War I. The deadline for application is February. They are expecting 6 to 8 nominations. Charles County has designated the land area around it as a park, which having a land base will help.

#### Review and Compliance Activities report – D Henry

Review and Compliance reviewed 449 projects in Maryland for archaeological impact. They have had ongoing meetings with Office of Research, Survey and Registration (ORSR) and the IT folks regarding upgrades to the Medusa system and our inventory database. They have been reviewing the models and suggesting changes and improvements. A stakeholder meeting was held at JPPM, regarding the DOD legacy grant that Sarah Rivers Cofield has been working on for the digital records. tDar (the Digital Archaeological Record), a system out of Arizona is being considered for managing our digital data. There was also a meeting with Mike Smolek, Tricia Samford and Nell Ziel, regarding St. Mary's County and HPC and their desire to having archaeological reviews. They are trying to decide how to design it, what their requirements are going to be, what their cut-offs are going to be, and we advised them to talk to Anne Arundel County. In Charles County, there will be one person doing the reviews so there will be some consistency. They also did the two annual workshops for everyone who received a state Bond Bill, to walk them through how to get their projects to us for review. There is an interesting Phase II that's underway at the Greenbranch Athletic Complex in P.G. County. It's likely the overseer's house at one of the Bowie plantations. It started out as a county project and now it's a Maryland Stadium Authority project. They've had staff participating in several webinars for professional development. Most of them are through the Advisory Council. Dixie had several handouts such as, the Public Outreach brochure that was put together for the Phase III data recovery that was at the Dunkirk park and ride project in Calvert County. There is also the Navy's internal magazine, which has a nice write-up on the archaeology that's been going on at Indian Head.

#### Terrestrial Activities report – C Hall

The committee for Maryland Archaeology Month has met twice, and has Julie King of St. Mary's College of Maryland is our partner. Funding will be okay again this year because fund raising with the consultants has been successful. State Highways will again be printing the booklets. The theme will be, "A Place Now Known To Them: Exploring Maryland Indian Landscapes", a phrase that Calvert used (A Place Now Known To Them) when he was re-settling the Piscataway and Zekiah Forts. Rico Newman and Virginia Busby also suggested,

“Indigenous Landscapes, Indigenous Landscapes”. Charlie is insistent that this be about archaeology. Julie and the College have hired a professional photographer to photograph the site and possibly a Pow-Wow. The College is also supplying some funding. The Field Session would like to return to the Biggs Ford site. ASM has seconded that. There are some conditions and expectations that ASM has agreed to. Charlie stated that we didn’t have to have a Field Session this year because there are other opportunities, such as a major survey in Patterson Park for War of 1812 resources, partnering with Baltimore Heritage. Joe Dent is willing to help again this year. ASM is willing to give cash to the Crums for crop damage, in order to alleviate Mrs. Crum’s concerns.

#### MAC Lab Activities report –C Hall for P Samford

BCUA Collections – Re-housing of the artifacts into archival boxes and bags was completed at the former bus station adjacent to the Maryland Historical Society. MHT responded to the official offer for the BCUA collections from the City of Baltimore and the Maryland Historical Society, requesting funding for archaeological conservation (not related to the steam pipe break), and stating several conditions for acceptance, such as clear chains of title so that deeds of gift can be executed. Rebecca Morehouse and Patricia Samford met with representatives from the City of Baltimore and the Maryland Historical Society in November to answer some questions for the City representatives as well as discuss next steps in the process.

Conservation Projects - Three cannon carriages from Ft. Delaware, material from the carriage house at MacAlpine, material from the nailery at Monticello, and an 1812 cannon from Frederick and are among the new projects received by the lab over the last few months. We are still anticipating the arrival of thirty plus bayonets from Valley Forge, blacksmith material from Pennsylvania, components from another well excavated during the 301 project in Delaware and 42 cannon expected from City of Philadelphia.

Francis Lukezic began work as a contractual conservator in late October.

Gloria S. King Research Fellowship - Announcements have been sent out to the wider archaeological community for the 2014 round of fellowships and there have been fewer inquiries so far this year compared with last year. Please spread the word to your students and colleagues about this wonderful program that funds collections research!

Diagnostic Artifacts in Maryland Webpage – The projectile point webpage has been published in print format in Maryland Archeology, with many thanks to Dennis Curry and ASM for all the hard work in getting it formatted and proofread.

Public Archaeology/ RITES Trail project – The field crew continued to excavate in the area west of the kitchen, and uncovered more postholes, clearly representing several different buildings. We also have excavated several interesting features – one a clay lined ash filled pit that may be related to soap-making activities, a deep rectangular pit that once contained a barrel, perhaps for food storage or use as a cistern, and a trash filled ditch that served a structure that may have been a laundry. Fieldwork will probably continue until around Christmas.

Defense Legacy Grant - The MAC Lab has obtained funding from the Department of Defense's Defense Legacy program to enter files associated with Army and Navy collections into The Digital Archaeological Record's (tDAR) system. The goal of the project is to test a partnership with tDAR that may lead to new policies for the DoD and the MAC Lab to address the special needs of digital records. The project is currently underway and slated for completion by the end of 2014.

#### General Collections Policy Draft – C Hall

Charlie reported that the policy started off as a division-wide collection policy, which resembled something that would be written for the museum community, with archaeology on the side. It was never adopted. In order to approve the policy, it has to be presented and approved by MACA, be presented and accepted by the Board of Directors, and signed by the Secretary. It is now considered the MHT's Collections Policy formed under and at the direction of and for the guidance of the Director. Also, in consideration is that MHT has many collections, such as the library collection, inventory collection, architectural collections and archaeology collections, which are to be handled equally. The new policy names the collections at the Trust, tells who is responsible for the collections, for acquisitions, for de-accessioning, loans, etc. Then makes the responsible parties create an independent policy that will conform with this policy, dealing specifically with the individuals collections. All should be completed within two years of the acceptance of the main policy. There are two things that should be considered by MACA: 1) who should be responsible for the archaeological collection, the Chief of Archaeology or the MAC Lab; and 2) are ethics issues, such as personal collections, sale, evaluation, etc.

#### Synthesis Report – Dennis Curry

Matt finished Baltimore City, which completes the first pass of the entire State. There are 45 projects that have come in over the past five years. He is also working with IT on the Medusa upgrade, to make sure we get what we want in the Synthesis Project. There will be two different versions of Synthesis; one for the general public and one which will be a secure log-in for the professionals. Ed Chaney and Tricia Samford who have a Transportation Enhancement Grant to do a synthesis project for collections. Matt and Dennis met with them to make sure they were getting the right information. Dennis is the project monitor for the Zekiah Fort Heritage Trail, which St. Mary's College received \$125,000 from the legislature, to look at 17<sup>th</sup> century sites related to Zekiah Fort. Tim Horsley is doing the second phase of remote sensing at the Fort. Dennis agreed to give a paper on Heater's Island in a symposium at the Mid-Atlantic meetings coming up in March, on Potomac Valley, including Zekiah Fort and a bunch of other sites. He has also been working with Elizabeth Hughes on a proposal to use Hurricane Sandy money and work with DNR to identify and assess the significance and assess the threat to shoreline erosion to sites in Maryland. It would require hiring a person for two years to survey this work. Having to adapt to a template for our website, we are looking at the opportunity for to have archaeology and research to become more prominent.

#### New Business

The MHT archaeologists are proposing a policy statement to be included on the website stating that professional archaeologist and those working directly with them are the only people who can access the archaeological site location information. There will also be a form to be filled out and returned to us, stating that they are a professional archaeologist. There is a draft policy and form that Charlie will send out to the committee, looking for comments on it. The committee would like it to be implemented in January.

Selection of Next Meeting Date

March 5, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:05, in a motion made by Tom Forhan and seconded by Joy Beasley. The motion was carried unanimously.